Virtual enemy – real threat Informational warfare in Cyberspace

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Most experts unambiguously consider information warfare as one of the NLW types. In fact, means of informational pressure completely meet the requirements of non-lethality, but can have great effects when implementing. Moreover, information impact as an additive can dramatically increase the efficiency of other NLW. The problem of NLW development and understanding of its advantages over common weapons strongly depends on informational policy. Thus, the informational warfare can be considered as a separate effective mean and as one of the main component of global antiterrorist operations.

From this viewpoint, the Internet is possibly the most effective mass-media to start antiterrorist informational activity as its publicity is now just unlimited. Indeed, the access to the Internet is very cheap and easy to set. This feature is very well understood by people, who oppose themselves to the civil society: separatists, terrorists, supporters of anti-globalization, football hooligans and extremists of other type. Cyberspace is now settled by practically uncontrolled population: any base-level programmer can immediately become an active member of Internet society, that makes the situation very complicated and even dangerous. Having just a computer and telephone line at any point of one can get to know: how to produce a HE or bomb from anything available, where to transfer money to the terrorist fund an so on.

The lack of ways to suppress this activity is connected with the absence of necessary legislative foundation to regulate Cyberspace. But the main difficulty is that the Internet is not bounded, thus the efforts of just one country are not sufficient to provide national security. Any other country with unstable social and political situation can permit the existence of such informational portals.

The paper presents:

- analysis of situation in the Internet concerning the existing and possible sources of threat;
- consideration of main steps and objectives for monitoring of informational activity by extremists;
- recommendations for establishing of international politics in the Internet regarding the control of undesired publications in the Cyberspace;
- results of analysis and monitoring from the viewpoint of development of legislative base and international laws;
- summarized analytical information for law reinforcement organizations to support anti-terrorist operations

Apart from the general problems of informational aspects in the Cyberspace, the paper dwells upon the principles to create the international informational portal devoted to the problem of NLW development and application in order to provide the true interpretation of the problem to prevent the distortion of public opinion regarding the problem itself according the EWG-NLW objectives and activity.

Keywords: Internet, Cyberspace, Informational Security, Computer Extremism